

Conflict and compatibility in marine waters: the opportunities, challenges and status of marine spatial planning

Jennifer Hennessey
Washington Dept. of Ecology

Marine Spatial Planning

- Why and what is it?
- Opportunities
- Status
 - Federal efforts
 - State law and legislative report
- MSP-SMP
- Challenges
- Next steps

Drivers

Ecosystem management

Predictability

Existing & Expanding Uses

New Uses

Coordination



Photo:
Hugh Shipman

Marine Spatial Planning Defined

Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) is a public process of analyzing and allocating the spatial and temporal distribution of human activities in marine environments to achieve ecological, economic, and social objectives.

- Non-regulatory
- Uses spatial data – maps

Opportunities

- Coordinate decisions
- Proactive: emerging or expanding uses
- Multi-use: conflicts and compatibilities
- Ecosystem/regional scales
- Influence federal actions
- Leverage partnerships and priorities

National Ocean Policy

- 9 priority areas: coastal and marine spatial planning (CMSP)
- National Ocean Council



“To succeed in protecting the oceans, coasts, and Great Lakes, the United States needs to act within a unifying framework under a clear national policy, including a comprehensive, ecosystem-based framework for the long-term conservation and use of our resources.”

– President Barack Obama, June 12, 2009

State Law -- RCW 43.372

If the state receives federal or non-state funds, directs state agencies to:

1. Compile and incorporate spatial data into current plans.
2. Develop guidance on the operation and siting of renewable energy facilities.
3. Conduct comprehensive marine spatial planning for all of Washington's waters.

What must be in a state plan?

- Ecosystem assessment and indicators
- Management measures
- Series of maps
- State recommendations for federal waters
- Implementation plan
- Framework for renewable energy

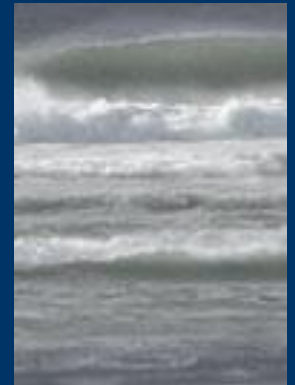
How must the state plan?



Photo:
Katie Lassiter



Photo: Katie Lassiter



What's in the legislative report?

Recommendations for MSP:

- A “framework”: geographic sub-regions
- Goals and objectives
- Ecosystem indicators
- Management and spatial data needs
- A unified approach to database management and delivery

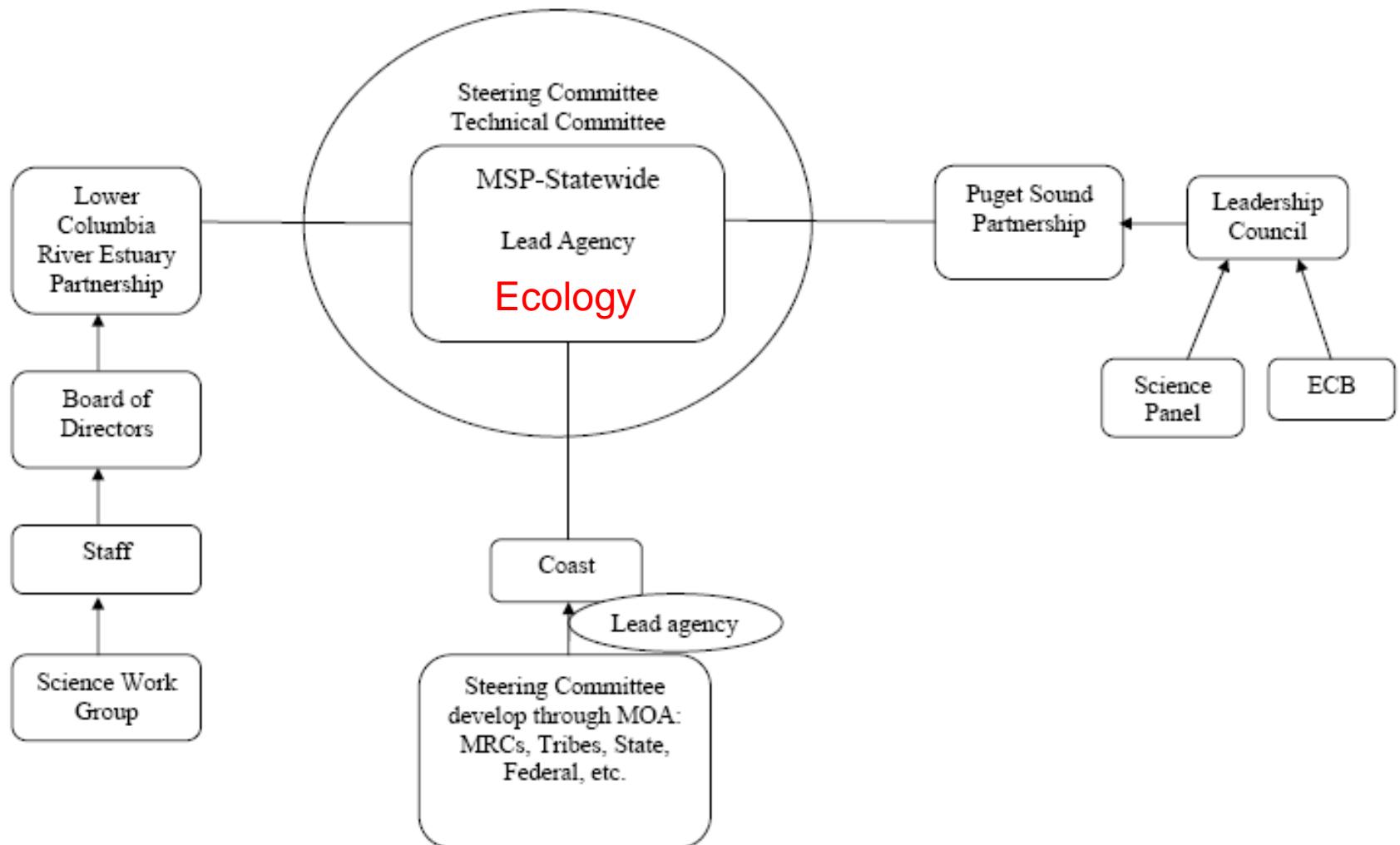
Legislative Report Recommendations

Goals and objectives:

- Integrate with existing mandates
- Reflect unique Washington concerns
- Compatible with national goals and state law

Legislative Report Recommendations

Figure 1 - Draft Governance Option for Marine Spatial Planning in Washington

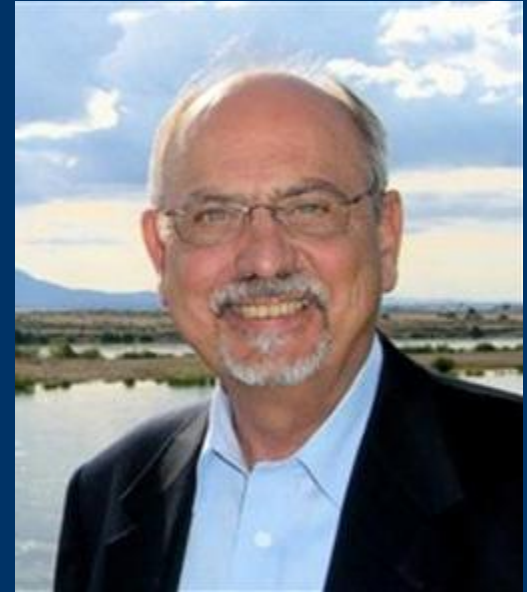


SMP-MSP

| Similarities | Differences |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Similar planning process• Establish goals, objectives• Common goals | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SMP process is more prescribed |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Generally outline suitable/unsuitable uses for particular areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SMPs are regulatory• MSP is typically non-regulatory |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use spatial data and some level of spatial detail | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Different levels of specificity about approved/prohibited developments and uses |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Geographic scope – Both have jurisdiction over marine waters | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SMPs more shoreline focused• MSP more aquatic focused |

Challenges

- Funding
- Political landscape
- Coordination
- Ecosystem scale
- Public involvement & education



Next steps

- Data collection
- Governance
- Education & outreach
- Strategic planning



For more information

Marine Spatial Planning

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/msp/>

Contact :

Jennifer.Hennessey@ecy.wa.gov

360-407-6595